

Appl. No. 10/678,694
Art Unit 2828

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

I. STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-13, 25-34 and 36 of Group I which have been elected by the Applicants in response to the Examiner's Restriction Requirement are pending in this application. Claims 14-24 and 35 directed to non-elected group II of the Examiner's Restriction Requirement have been canceled herewith without prejudice.

II. CONCLUSION

It is believed that all pending claims as currently presented are in condition for allowance. A notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

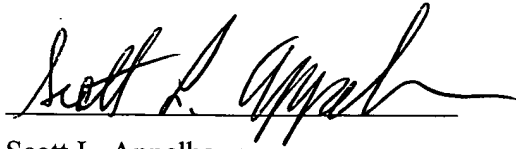
According to currently recommended Patent Office policy, The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below in the event that a telephone interview will advance the prosecution of this application. An early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

This paper is deemed to be filed within the shortened statutory period and no petition or fee for an extension of time is required. However, should the undersigned attorney be mistaken, please consider this a petition for any extension of time that may be

Appl. No. 10/678,694
Art Unit 2828

required to maintain the pendency of this Patent Application, and charge deposit account no.: 50-1924 for any required fee deficiency.

Respectfully submitted,



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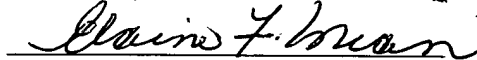
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail on the date shown below in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313

3/9/2005

Date



Signature of Person Making Deposit